

LOWER TEN MILE JOINT SEWER AUTHORITY

144 CHARTIERS ROAD

JEFFERSON, PA 15344

724-883-2743

MINUTES

May 21, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority was called to order at 5:00 p.m., at the Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority office.

Those members present were:

Kenneth Frameli, Chairman
Tom Goughenour, Vice Chairman
Jamie Forman, Secretary
Benjamin Bupka, Treasurer

George Riecks, Asst. Sec-Treas.
Tim Phillips
Joshua Forman

Also attending were:

Christopher Simms, Solicitor
Bob Dengler, Engineer

Bruce Howard, Lead Operator
Sharon Confortini, Secretary

MINUTES

A motion approving the minutes of the April 16, 2025 meeting was made by Mr. Joshua Forman, seconded by Mr. Phillips and the motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion approving the Treasurer's Report and to pay the outstanding invoices was made by Mr. Joshua Forman, seconded by Mr. Jamie Forman and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

None

OPERATION'S REPORT

None

CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Confortini stated she had sent a letter to Morgan Township requesting they discuss at their May 2025 board meeting the Authority's offer of purchasing back flow preventers and the material needed to install them, on the condition that Morgan Township would install them and the customers would maintain them. The offer was for the Mather customers who continually experience issues when the area experiences heavy rainstorms. Mrs. Confortini had not heard anything regarding the matter. Mrs. Confortini will request a copy of the minutes of Morgan Township's May 2025 board meeting.

Mrs. Confortini stated Bailey Insurance quoted cyber insurance of \$1,871.10 annually to cover the Authority in case of a cyber-attack on the Authority's computers. Mr. Riecks made a motion authorizing the purchase of cyber insurance from Bailey Insurance for \$1,871.10 annually. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously except Mr. Goughenour who abstained.

Mrs. Confortini stated the reassessment of the Jefferson Fire Department's water consumption resulted in a decrease from twelve (12) EDUs to seven (7) EDUS and eliminated the need for an additional Initial TAP fee.

Mrs. Confortini stated the Authority's Certificate of Deposit with First National Bank has matured on May 20, 2025. First National Bank quoted the new certificate of deposit rates as follows; six (6) month rate is 4.25% APY, nine (9) month rate is 4.10% APY, and twelve (12) month rate is 4.00% APY. Mr. Phillips made a motion to renew the matured Certificate of Deposit for another six (6) month period at a rate of 4.25% APY with First National Bank. Mr. Bupka seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

LEGAL REPORT

Mr. Simms stated USDA informed Mrs. Confortini there was a new civil rights requirement associated with the Authority's USDA loan. Mr. Simms drew up a Resolution Establishing 504 Grievance Procedures, which states if an employee with a disability were claiming discrimination the Authority's solicitor would complete an investigation into the allegation. Mr. Phillips made a motion approving the Resolution. Mr. Jamie Forman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Simms stated the Authority is continually receiving invoices from the Railroad Management Company for the lease in Clarksville that are substantially more than the agreed upon contract. The Authority has continued to pay the agreed upon lease payments each year but the Railroad Management Company is invoicing the Authority more than what is recorded in the contract. Mr. Simms suggests the Authority continues to pay the agreed upon lease payments recorded in the contract and wait to see how the Railroad Management Company proceeds.

Mr. Simms stated the Authority's insurance company is asking the Authority to maintain a Motor Vehicle Policy. Mr. Simms submitted a copy of a Motor Vehicle Policy he drew up. Mr. Phillips made a motion to accept the new Motor Vehicle policy. Mr. Jamie Forman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Howard will submit this new policy to the union for approval.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Dengler stated he had no additional information regarding the Mather STP NPDES permit renewal submitted to PaDEP on June 28, 2024 but will follow up with them to inquire about the delay.

Mr. Dengler updated the board on the Morgan Township sewer extension projects as follows:

1. The Authority still has the \$500,000.00 grant approved through USEPA FY 2023 Community Project Funding Program for the Chartiers Hill Sewer Extension Project.
2. Mr. Dengler is still waiting for the results of the \$1,000,000.00 grant application from The Statewide LSA Grant application submitted in November 2024 for the Country Club Road Sewer Extension Project. Mr. Dengler heard the decision might take place in September 2025.
3. Applications for funding for the Country Club Sewer Extension have been submitted under the FY 2026 Appropriations Requests to Senator McCormick's and Fetterman's Offices and to Congressman Reschenthaler's Office. The amount requested is \$1,340,172.00 towards an estimated \$1,675,215.00 project cost. There is a 20% (\$335,043.00) matching funds requirement.

4. Mr. Dengler sent the Resolution to Adopt the Sewage Planning Module to Morgan Township on May 8, 2025 to approve the Chartiers Hill Sewer Extension Project and the Country Club Sewer Extension Project. This Resolution was on the agenda for Morgan Township meeting on Tuesday, May 13, 2025. Mr. Dengler stated he would contact Morgan Township to get their decision.

Mr. Dengler stated Gannett Fleming submitted a grant application to the PA Small Water and Sewer Grant Program on behalf of the Authority in the amount of \$269,000.00 for the Greene County Country Club Extension Project. This grant has a 15% matching funds requirement, which would be \$40,350.00. Mr. Dengler understands they will decide who will be awarded these grants sometime this fall.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Frameli assigned Mr. Jamie Forman, Mr. Goughenour, and Mr. Phillips to the union contract negotiating committee, with himself as an alternate committee member. The current employee union contract expires August 31, 2025.

Mr. Goughenour stated NexGen Industrial Services sent him an official quote to complete the concrete pads at the Mather STP. The total price of two (2) 25' X 25' X 4" concrete pads and one (1) 13' x 25' x 4" concrete pad would be \$12,100.00. Mr. Phillips made a motion approving the construction of the concrete pads at the Mather STP at a cost of \$12,100.00. Mr. Bupka seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Goughenour made a motion to adjourn at 5:28 p.m., seconded by Mr. Bupka and the motion carried unanimously.